

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 85 - SB 287**

March 24, 2011

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires written notice be given four months before the termination of parental rights to the parent or parents who have failed to provide child support payments or visit for four consecutive months. Requires a petition to terminate parental rights to include a verified statement that the child will be placed in the guardianship of others who will have the right to adopt the child or place the child for adoption and the parent will have no further right to notice of adoption proceedings. Establishes that the parental rights of an individual who is alleged to be the biological parent of a child may be terminated if the individual has failed to pay a reasonable share of prenatal, natal, or postnatal expenses, has failed to make reasonable and consistent child support payments, or has failed to seek reasonable visitation with the child.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- The state trial and appellate courts will include this notification language in custody, support, and visitation orders. Changing these orders will not significantly increase judicial expenditures.
- No additional children will come into state custody as a result of this bill. No fiscal impact to the Department of Children's Services.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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